



### **MEDIA UPDATE**

TO : ALL MEDIA  
DATE : 15 November 2011  
ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

---

#### **MEC MCHUNU WELCOMES COURT DECISION TO GRANT TAXI DRIVER A BAIL**

KZN MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr Willies Mchunu welcomed the decision by the Pietermaritzburg Magistrate court to grant a taxi driver (Khulakani Gwala) bail today (15 November 2011).

The court granted Gwala a bail of R10 000 with certain conditions which included him reporting to the nearest police station on a weekly basis and to find an alternative place to stay.

His case was also postponed to the 13<sup>th</sup> of December 2011 pending further investigations.

Gwala is facing 15 counts of murder and two of attempted murder.

He was driving a taxi that killed 15 people on R33 (Greytown road) on the 30<sup>th</sup> of September 2011.

**“We welcome the decision by the Pietermaritzburg Magistrate court to grant the accused bail. The fact that he was granted bail of R10 000 shows the seriousness of the case and the court also takes the matter seriously. We also noted remarks made by the magistrate and her concern regarding the increasing number of people who are losing their lives on the roads. This alone shows that even our courts are equally concerned with the scourge of fatalities on our roads. The matter is not closed and there is still a long way to go with the trial. We hope motorists are learning a lesson on this case. As the Department we will continue**

**to campaign for harsher sentences against transgressors on the road”, said Mchunu**

Mchunu expressed gratitude for the bold stance taken by the Thokozani community to oppose this bail application. He said their action is exemplary and all communities must show activism against road carnages and transgressions.

Ends

MEDIA CONTACT: Kwanele Ncalane on 072 803 1462 or 0796995755